

RECYCLE, REDUCE, REUSE

Here's how you and your students can help the environment:



RECYCLE



- Collect and recycle aluminum cans. Aluminum is a very valuable metal and is easy to recycle. Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to keep a light bulb lit for 12 hours!
- Litter is everybody's problem and responsibility. Do your part by picking it up and disposing of it properly.
- Help your family find a way to recycle unwanted electronic items like computers, cell phones or portable electronic video games. Many electronic items can be reused or refurbished by someone else rather than thrown away. Otherwise, if you are unable to find another user for it, check with your local electronics store or your community's recycling program for recycling options.



Can you think of other ways to help the environment?

REDUCE

- Take small portions of food and go back for "seconds" if you are still hungry. Put leftover food in reusable storage containers to eat later.
- After you buy a small item, take it home in your pocket, because you do not really need a bag. If your items are too large for your pocket, then bring a reusable shopping bag you've made.
- Buy in bulk or buy larger packages and put the amount you need for school or snacks in reusable containers. Buying in bulk is usually cheaper than buying individually wrapped servings, and requires less packaging.



REUSE

- Use a lunch box, and get your friends to one also. Include in it, reusable cups, plates, and silverware. Look for these items at garage sales. Pack your food in reusable containers instead of waxed paper, sandwich bags or aluminum foil. It will stay more fresh and will not get "squished!"
- Use both sides of a piece of paper when writing letters or doing homework. If you only need to use one side, save the paper in a "reuse" box for future use to make your paper last twice as long. Make your plane with a piece of paper from your reuse box! (Recycle when completely done.)
- Use a pencil and erase any mistakes. If you need a perfect copy, practice on one of the papers from your "reuse" box and then copy it over for the final draft.

- Save your old clothes for a garage sale or give them to a charity. If they are ripped or torn and cannot be repaired, then use them for cleaning rags (cut off and save the buttons first).
- Use a hand towel for drying your hands and a dish cloth or sponge for wiping up spills. They can be cleaned and used again instead of being used once and thrown away.
- Save broken crayons in a can for future coloring or art projects. Buy a crayon sharpener to make points on rounded used crayons.

